2021 Baltimore County Redistricting Commission

Meeting Minutes – September 30, 2021 – Final Meeting

This was the fifth and final meeting of the Commission, not including public input hearings. The meeting was held in-person in the Council Chamber. The meeting was also live-streamed and started at 4:00 p.m. All Commission members were present during the entire meeting, with Sam Neuberger attending via web conference. Also in attendance were Commission staff members Tom Bostwick, Adam Phillips, as well as members of the GIS team assisting the Commission.

Before the start of the meeting, Commission Chair Robert E. Latshaw, Jr. asked Council Chair Julian E. Jones, Jr. to speak. Council Chair Jones thanked the Commission for their service and then left the meeting to allow the Commission to conduct its work. Council Secretary Tom Bostwick greeted the Commission members and gave opening remarks, which summarized the process the Commission has taken to arrive at this meeting.

Mr. Latshaw remarked that the Commission received written testimony from the Randallstown NAACP. Mr. Latshaw then asked Ryan Coleman from the Randallstown NAACP, who was in attendance, to speak for up to three minutes on the draft map and his organization's written testimony.

Mr. Plymouth gave complimentary remarks on the Commission's process and work product in general. Mr. Almon thanked Mr. Coleman for his testimony and commented that the Commission worked very hard to create a fair map. Mr. Neuberger commented that he appreciated the public input. Mr. Plymouth then thanked Mr. Coleman and all other public participants for their assistance in making sure communities are not divided by council district. Mr. Latshaw then gave extensive comments on the written testimony from the Randallstown NAACP and the joint written testimony regarding a second majority-Black council district from the ACLU and Baltimore County NAACP.

Mr. Plymouth motioned to adopt the map as presented to the Commission. Ms. Montgomery seconded the motion. There was then discussion on the motion. Mr. Bostwick then took the roll call, upon which the motion was unanimously adopted. Mr. Almon motioned for the draft recommendation letter sent the Commission members by Mr. Bostwick on behalf of the Commission Chair Latshaw to be adopted. Mr. Neuberger seconded the motion. There was then discussion on the motion. Mr. Bostwick then took the roll call, upon which the motion was unanimously adopted. Mr. Latshaw thanked the members and closed the meeting at approximately 4:40 p.m.